

Sciacca, Scott M.

From: Loos, Thomas [loos@mbhb.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 23, 2011 4:48 PM
To: Sciacca, Scott M.
Cc: Machonkin, Rick; Ponce De Leon, Lucy
Subject: Interview for USPA 09/684,706: Tuesday March 1, 2011 @ 2 PM EDT / 1 PM CDT -- Atty. Docket No. 08-880-US5

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Examiner Sciacca,

Thank you for talking with me today and agreeing to have an interview, regarding:

Application: U.S. Pat. App. No. 09/684,706
 Date: Tuesday March 1, 2011
 Time: 2 PM Eastern (1 PM Central).

I plan to call you at your desk number (571 270 1919) for the interview.

Our agenda for this interview is to discuss some claim amendments that we believe overcome the cited art (Clare, Wichter, Acampora, Myer, Kraus, Davis, Makansi, Humpleman, and Clark).

To aid discussion, please see below our proposed amendments to claim 1 related to energy costs being determined based on attenuation values. We also propose making similar amendments to independent claims 63, 83, 101, 103, and 112. Also, please see below our proposed amendments to independent claim 92, which recites wireless broadcast of inhibit messages after receiving a high priority message code. Support for these amendments can be found, for example, on pages 48, 49, and 87-89 of the specification.

I will be prepared to discuss how these amended claims are patentable over the cited art during our interview.

I look forward to speaking with you again on Tuesday afternoon.

Sincerely,

Tom

Proposed amendments to the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A sensor network comprising a plurality of network elements including at least one node configured to be coupled among a monitored environment,

wherein the at least one node is further configured to be remotely controllable and to determine an energy cost for communication and a message priority, wherein the energy cost is determined based on one or more attenuation values,

wherein the at least one node is further configured to distribute objects for data processing to one or more of the plurality of network elements, wherein the objects for data processing comprise data and executable code, and

wherein the distribution of the objects for data processing varies based on the energy cost for communication and the message priority.

92. (Currently Amended) A sensor network comprising a plurality of network elements including at least one node configured to be coupled among a monitored environment, wherein the at least one node includes at least one sensor, wherein the at least one node is further configured to process data gathered from the monitored environment by the at least one sensor and to propagate a predetermined identifying code representing the gathered data through the sensor network, wherein the plurality of network elements is configured to communicate a high priority message code for a high priority event, wherein, in response to receipt of the high priority message code, the at least one node is configured to broadcast one or more inhibit messages configured to inhibit messaging from nodes not engaged in conveying the high priority event, wherein at least one inhibit message of the one or more inhibit messages is broadcast wirelessly, and wherein a distribution of data processing by the plurality of network elements varies based on a priority of the message.

Tom Loos

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